

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid having a nucleic acid sequence of ~~at least 80%, wherein the nucleic acid sequence is at least 90%~~ identical sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2, ~~and which wherein~~ the isolated nucleic acid is anti-apoptotically active.

2. - 7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, ~~having a wherein~~ the nucleic acid sequence ~~[[of]] is at least 95% sequence identity identical~~ to SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2.

9. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, having an anti-apoptotic activity of at least 70% inhibition.

10. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, having an anti-apoptotic activity of at least 80% inhibition.

11. – 12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid having ~~[[a]] the~~ nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 4, and SEQ ID NO: 2.

14. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising the isolated nucleic acid of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutical vehicle.

15. (Previously Presented) A diagnostic test kit comprising the isolated nucleic acid of claim 1 in combination with positive and negative controls.

16. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing the isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, comprising chemically synthesizing the nucleic acid using a DNA/RNA synthesizer.

17. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, ~~having a~~ wherein the nucleic acid sequence ~~[[of]] is at least 90% sequence identity identical~~ to SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2.

18. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid ~~having a~~ wherein the nucleic acid sequence ~~[[of]]~~ is at least 90% ~~sequence identity~~ identical to SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2.

19. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 18, ~~having a~~ wherein the nucleic acid sequence ~~[[of]]~~ is at least 95% ~~sequence identity~~ identical to SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2.

20. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising the isolated nucleic acid of claim 18 in combination with a pharmaceutical vehicle.